

# 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR WITH INVENTION CONVENTION

## Science Fair Categories

### Science Fair/Scientific Investigation (Grades 4-8):

This type of project follows the scientific method:

1. Develop Testable Question
2. Make Hypothesis
3. Conduct Experiment
4. Analyze Data/Draw Conclusions
5. Communicate Results

**Science Fair/Model of a System (Grades 4-8):** This type of project shows how a system works. Students will research a topic of interest, make a display board and build a model so people can see what it is and how it works.

**Invention Convention (Kindergarten- Grade 8):** This is a project in which students solve a problem by creating, or inventing, a solution. The invention could be something new or an improvement of something that already exists.

Adapted from [k5stempta.org](http://k5stempta.org)



Have you ever wished you could improve something or solve a problem in the world? Do you have a new, interesting idea for an invention? Do you like to take apart objects? It's time for you to join the 4th Annual Science Fair!

## Basic Information

The 4th Annual Science Fair with Invention Convention is open to all K-8 students enrolled in Manchester Public Schools. Students can choose to participate in the Science Fair (Grades 4-8) or Invention Convention (Kindergarten - Grade 8). Students will create an experiment or invention to solve a real-life problem. Students will have an opportunity to display their project at their school's science fair. Some students will be selected to display their project at the District-Wide Science Fair or Connecticut Invention Convention.





## Parents and Students, Working Together

Students will be expected to complete a fair amount of work at home. The Science Fair is an at-home, individual project. Some students will benefit from deciding, designing, and finishing a project independently with little or no parent involvement. For other students, this is a great opportunity to work with and learn from parents. Let your judgement be the guide, with the goal being a learning experience for the student and reasonable interaction from the parent. Age, independence, teamwork, family building, and learning can all be considered when thinking about this. However, the project should be representative of the child's work and understanding, not the parent's.

### Expectations for Students at the Science Fair

During the fair, students will be interviewed by judges about what they learned and receive recognition for participating in the 4th Annual Science Fair with Invention Convention.

Adapted from [k5stempta.org](http://k5stempta.org)

## After-School Guidance

The Science Fair is an at home project; however, after-school guidance will be offered by the Town-Wide PTA and Manchester Public Schools. After-school guidance will take place every Monday at the East Side Youth Center, 153 Spruce Street, from 6 - 7:30 p.m.; every Tuesday at the Mary Cheney Library from 6 - 7:30 p.m.; and every Thursday at your child's school from 4 - 5 p.m. beginning December 8, 2014 and ending on February 12, 2015 (after-school guidance will not take place during the holiday break).

## Parent Orientation

If you are interested in learning more about the 4th Annual Science Fair with Invention Convention, a parent orientation will be held on Thursday, November 6, 2014 at the Iling Middle School Cafeteria from 6 - 7 p.m. Parents will be given the opportunity to sign up as a Science Fair/Invention Convention volunteer at the orientation.

## Important Dates to Remember

- November 6, 2014: Parent Orientation
- November 21, 2014: Student Registration Due
- December 8, 2014 - February 12, 2015: After-School Guidance (after-school guidance will not be held during the holiday break)
- February 2015 - March 2015: School Science Fairs
- March 21, 2015: District-Wide Science Fair\*
- May 2, 2015: Connecticut Invention Convention at UConn\*

\*Some students will be selected to share their project at the District-Wide Science Fair and/or Connecticut Invention Convention. All projects must be pre-approved by the PTA. Projects that are not pre-approved will not be displayed at the Science Fair.

